



The new perspective on city living

October 9 - October 15, 2002

Vol. 19 No. 43

N.J. Senate case goes to the U.S. Supreme Court

Several observers venture to guess whether or not the nation's highest court will decide the fate of New Jersey voters, and perhaps once again the nation's.

by M. Scheryl Gant

The U.S. Supreme Court holds the nation's future in the palms of their hands, again, maybe. Last week the so called "activist" New Jersey Supreme Court ruled on the heels of Democrat U.S. Senate candidate Robert G. Torricelli dropping out of the November race that another candidate's name could appear on the ballot. In making the ruling, the New Jersey court said that it was more important for voters to have a choice between candidates from each of the major party, than to uphold the 51-day deadline passed by the state legislature.

The New Jersey court's ruling sent Republicans, heavily dependent upon their challenger, Douglas Forrester, being able to squeak by Torricelli, straight to the U.S. Supreme court. Torricelli was politically wounded by fallout from a Senate investigation and chastisement surrounding allegations of political corruption, but the polls showed him and Forrester seesawing for the lead until damaging information was released on September 26. Torricelli dropped out of the race four days later, and Democrats declared his nemesis, former U.S. Senator Frank Lautenberg the new candidate.

The Supreme Court of the United States, which began a new term last Monday and is still reeling from the bitter global fallout that followed their reversal of a Florida Supreme Court ruling, and in essence declaring George W. Bush the President of the United States. As the nation waits for their decision in the high-stakes battle between New Jersey Democrats and Republicans many observers are guessing and hoping that the Justices will stay out of fray. Once again, their decision may have national repercussions, since Democrats currently control the U.S. Senate by one seat.

Rick Thigpen, a partner with The Strategy Group, and a

well-known political observer, said the fact that the high court had not rushed to make the ruling last week is an indication that the Justices may not wade into the dispute. A decision was expected on Monday as City News went to press.

"We're still waiting to hear what the Supreme Court has to say," Thigpen said. "The common wisdom is the longer there is no news, the better off we are." Thigpen said that New Jersey has ordered the printing of election ballots with Lautenberg name on it. "If the U.S. Supreme Court was going to enter the case, it seems they would have ordered the printing to stop."

Although the Republicans are crying foul, they moved the 2001 primary to allow new Gubernatorial candidate Bob Franks time to organize a campaign when Donald DiFrancesco dropped out because of unfavorable questions surrounding his financial dealings.

Rev. Reginald Jackson, the Executive Director of the Black Minister's Alliance said, "It is my hope that especially after the 2000 decision, the U.S. Supreme Court will decide not to involve themselves in the matter. The state (N.J. Supreme Court) acted unanimously."

"We've never coronated anyone in this country, you have to be elected." Jackson said making a reference to what would happen if the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that Torricelli's name would have to remain on the ballot. There are several other U.S. Senate candidates on the November ballot, but the general notion is that the battle will be between the two major parties.

David Bositis, a senior analyst at the Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies in Washington, D.C. says, "The current court has a tendency to be predictable, and they were somewhat stunned by the reaction to Bush versus Gore. They may be more circumspect about getting involved in a New Jersey case."

Mayor blasts Council's MBNA inquiry



Controversial bridge would join existing MBNA location with building being erected on Market St.

Strongly disagreeing with three members of the Newark City Council for their "unprofessional behavior and anger" toward the nation's independent credit card lender MBNA recently, Mayor Sharpe James stood fast with the corporate giant today in publicly maintaining it did not have to be held hostage by this minority of the City Council.

At a public meeting last week, three Council members had demanded personnel information from MBNA officials prior to voting on an ordinance allowing a pedestrian bridge to be built over University Avenue, connecting MBNA's two downtown properties on each side of the street.

The Council subsequently approved the measure, but not before three Council members asked for the firm's records on hiring city residents.

"We should applaud MBNA, not scold them. We should applaud them for their \$100 million investment in Newark and not for seeking any concessions from the city such as tax abatement or other tax relief," Mayor James said.

"We should applaud them for their opening a headquarters in Newark in six months of construction with a high quality office building, and thereafter purchasing the Urban League building and Burger King site, expanding job opportunities, and increasing tax rates in Newark. I salute them."

In the letter, Ford assailed

"It's pretty much resolved now."

— Michael Ford, MNBA

the Council for investigating MBNA's internal personnel matters without legal justification or need. "Some things are appropriate for public discussions, and some things aren't. For example, how we hire and whom we hire is between us and the people we hire. We don't think it is appropriate for the City Council to expect us to answer questions about matters we consider to be confidential."

Responding to Ford's letter, James wrote: "I would like to publicly and privately support your stand on the issue. I disagree with the completely unprofessional behavior of those angry Council members who were seeking confrontation instead of communication, and were not interested in the truth of the situation."

James hailed MBNA for its "outstanding professionalism, service delivery, and commitment to our community and region. I want to welcome MBNA to Newark by recognizing your valued presence, independence, and professionalism, your partnership with the exemplary St. Benedict's Prep School, and your unequivocal creation of jobs and fiscal enhancement of our city."

MBNA, the nation's largest credit lender, opened a region headquarters in Newark last year, which employs 448 pe-

ople in its Newark offices. It is adding a new building adjacent to its facilities on Market Street. When the building is completed, MNBA expect to employ more than 1,500 people in Newark. Of the people hired since MBNA opened its Newark office, nearly 300 are from Newark, East Orange, Irvington, Orange, Hillside, and Jersey City. Sixty-two percent of the MBNA people in Newark are female and 38 percent are male, with more than 87 percent from minority groups, according to Mayor James.

"It sends a bad message when Council members demand campaign contributions and funding of their pet projects, as a prerequisite for their vote. The issue is not about hiring but 'Do as I say!'" City News was unable to reach council members Chaneyfield-Jenkins, Walker or Tucker for comments regarding their concerns about MNBA before going press. The receptionist in each of their offices at City Hall said the council members were not in. Tucker, who is also a state Assemblyman, was in Trenton.

MBNA has been highly recognized for hiring local residents. The company is currently advertising one position, a New Account Specialists-Part Time on their website for Newark NJ opening.



Newark native completes Congressional Internship in D.C.—
(l) Taquan Williams joins (r) Weldon Rougeau, Congressional Black Caucus Foundation (CBCF) President. Williams had completed the internship in the office of Congressman Donald Payne. Williams attended Irvington High School where he was President of the Student Council Association, Team Leader of the Urban Youth Coalition, & Chair of the prom committee. He is currently a student at Rutgers Newark. He is serving his first term as Senator-at-large within the Student Government Association.



Jersey City teen becomes "Model for Make a Wish Child"—Pictured here, (l to r), Joyce Sweeney, the 3000th wish child for the Make-A-Wish Foundation of New Jersey, is preparing for a fashion show by Instructor Emy Aviles of Kearny. Joyce, who is 14 years old and from Jersey City, wished to attend modeling classes at Barbizon School and Agency of Paramus so that she could regain her self esteem and confidence and prepare for a future career.



Sharon C. Taylor, Senior Vice President of Human Resources, of Prudential Financial, Inc. accepts an award from American Association of Retired Person's (AARP) Bill Novelli, Executive Director and CEO and James Parkel, President. Prudential Financial, Inc. was recently named to AARP's "Best Companies for Workers Over 50" list for the second consecutive year. In naming Prudential Financial as one of 15 honorees this year, AARP lauded the organizations for their policies affecting employees age 50 plus. With the changing demographics of the labor force, Prudential continues to emphasize flexibility and choice in its workplace practices to better meet the needs of our diverse population. This is underscored with initiatives such as Business-Based Flexibility, Pension Choice, expanded benefits for part-time employees, and a rich array of employee support services that address the needs of Prudential employees at various life stages, according to Taylor.

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Curious Observer?

For all those people who do not understand the flap over the self-despising humor in "Barber Shop" there was nothing funny about the civil rights movement. Rosa Parks, the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and others put their lives and the lives of their families on the line during this period of domestic terror and white supremacy aimed at keeping African Americans oppressed. This period was the last of the most blatant days of our holocaust.

For all those people who enjoyed "Barber Shop" be sure to vote in the November 5 election for a U.S. Senator so that you can retain the freedom of speech to make these useless films, and the freedom to sit anywhere in a theatre you choose. It was not like that for blacks merely 50 years ago.

For those of you who are concerned with the national tenor keep your eyes on the sudden push to give millions of people small pox vaccines, the erosion of domestic liberty under the guise of homeland security, and the negation of domestic issues under the guise of a war against Iraq.

On another note, but not really New Jersey Poet Laureate Amiri Baraka, barely 30 days in office, finds himself in a tempest with Governor James E. McGreevey and the Council on the Arts over his poem "Somebody Blew Up America" which asserts that some Israelis knew in advance about September 11, 2001. Several Jewish groups demanded Baraka's removal from the post. Baraka said "no way." It turns out neither the Governor nor the appointing committee can fire him.

Have an observation you want to share?

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CITY NEWS... *The new perspective on city living,*
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Editorial

Gangs recruiting more of our youth—No wonder

Recent headlines tell of the atrocities surrounding the growing gang activity in New Jersey, which is spreading from the urban centers into the suburbs.

We shake our heads and ask why, but are we sedated by the visual and mental abuse coming from the talk and acts of violence all around us? Police beating citizen and shootings of unarmed individuals, mothers killing children, children killing parents, husbands killing wives, clergy abusing children. Games, toys, television movies, and real life have all started to melt together into one large continuum imitating, reflecting, promoting and idealizing violence. Even on the nightly news, our President plays on the rhetoric of violence by talking about sending our youth off to Iraq, to kill or be killed, as though he is reading a script from an outdated western.

The infection of embracing violence as an acceptable way to handling frustration, belonging to a group, or getting kicks, is not getting through to the powers that can make a difference. In fact young people's growing attraction to gangs is going unchallenged because the powers that be have to too long seen it as a problem of the urban poor. You would think that with the gang violence faced by urban youth being decades old now, you would hear a louder and constant outcry from parents, ministers, teachers, civic organizations, police, health professionals and the corporate community. Even those organizations that provide services for youth seem disconnected and appear to have no clear lead on how they can make a difference.

While considerable attention has been given to failing schools. Too many educators and politicians see improving the schools as the salvation for urban youth. Therefore, much of the attention over the last 30 years has gone to improving the quality of the schools without treating the causes the result in threatening behavior by the youth who attend those very schools.

What is happening in America, where children younger and younger are becoming more violent and non-caring. Is the urban youth problem a reflection of America's decaying values and a fore shadow of what is to come in communities across the United States? In Detroit, a gang of angry youth beat a man to death with sticks, bricks, and fists. A popular basketball player and television announcer is accused of killing a man in his multi-million-dollar home. Just last week a group of teens punched an 85-year-old man as he was going into a grocery store in "lily white" Pluckemin, NJ. A few years ago Columbine High School in Littleton, Colorado, erupted in mass killings as two upper middle-class white teenage males walked the halls firing automatic assault weapons. Beginning late last week eight were randomly shot in the Maryland-Washington, D.C., area and by an unknown serial killer who claimed six innocent lives.

Acts of violence by teens and adults are cutting across all income levels, ethnic groups and communities. Now is the time for politicians to take concrete action to stem this destructive tide of youth before our free society develops into camps of armed aggression and more innocent Americans are cut down.

CITY NEWS Publishing Company

Founded in 1983

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City News Publishing Group

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Amistad Bill: Kudos to the Governor

by Craig Stanley

On August 28, Governor James E. McGreevey dedicated an entire day to recognizing and highlighting the significance of the "Amistad" bill, a new state mandate that creates a commission to research the African-American experience in this country. The commission, most importantly, will provide direction to school districts and teachers throughout the state on teaching African-American history, including slavery and the contributions of African-Americans.

It is inspirational to hear the prime sponsor of the legislation, Assemblyman William Payne, speak about his experience in school and recall how he was taught about Paul Revere riding to warn "The British are coming! The British are coming!" However, he was never taught that the first person killed in the streets of Boston was Crispus Attucks, a black man. Nor was he taught that several thousand blacks fought in the Revolutionary War, on both sides. Some fought with the British Army because the British promised them freedom.

How a culture or a race of people is historically portrayed has a tremendous impact on how children view the world and themselves. I can remember my own experience in school where it seemed as though blacks made no contributions of significance.

During those days, there were very few African-American role models on television, the activity that still captivates our youth. I watched shows such as Shirley Temple, a cute, curly-haired girl that would lead an adult black man around by the hand and teach

"I certainly remember my own feelings of inferiority as I searched for positive images in the lessons of my history class."

— The Hon. Craig Stanley

him the rare things that the underprivileged and less educated Negro would not know. The television show, 'Tarzan of the Apes', featured a scantly clad hero who single-handedly in each episode defeated a tribe of "savages" (synonymous with Africans) each episode to protect Jane.

Imagine the affect of this on young children who are beginning to become aware of themselves and their identity. I certainly remember my own feelings of inferiority as I searched for positive images in the lessons of my history class, instead the facts on the African American ancestry in my school books only led credence to the negatively contrived images I witnessed on television.

Fortunately for me, I had very strong role models: two uncles who were college graduates and another who was a psychologist. Two of my uncles transcended racial boundaries to become the first African American to run for city office and the first African American to win a congressional seat — Assemblyman William Payne and Congressman Donald Payne, respectively. In addition, I had three siblings who had gone to college before me. There was never a doubt that after high school that I would

go to college and beyond. But what of the young mind who has no positive role model to whom he or she can relate.

Even today, as a teacher of American Government, I confess that while the constitutional and judicial elements of slavery are included in the text, the social impact of slavery on the slave master and the enslaved are not even broached.

School textbooks do not fully explain the difference between the hypocrisy of slavery and 17th and 18th century America's schizophrenic dichotomy or dualism of declaring independence from England and documenting "that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness;" while at the same time enslaving fellow humans.

We as a nation can never achieve racial harmony as long as we fail to include the contributions and historical significance of African-Americans to this country.

I do not portend that the signing of this bill is the answer to all of the inequities that continue to exist in our institutions: particularly in our schools and our criminal justice system.

I am proud that New Jersey has become the first state to recognize the tremendous significance of understanding the true history African-Americans in this country.

Through the vehicle of education, the state can begin to reconcile blacks and whites, and ultimately encourage our nation to follow suit.

The Honorable Craig A. Stanley is the co-prime sponsor of the Amistad Commission Law and a NJ state Assemblyman (D-28)

Amira Baraka needs freedom of speech, too

TO: The Honorable James E. McGreevey, Governor, State of New Jersey

Dear Gov. McGreevey:

I have been unsuccessful in obtaining from your office a copy of your statement asking Amiri Baraka to resign as Poet Laureate of New Jersey because of a poem he wrote pertaining to "September 11th". So, I am left to assume that reports I have read about this in the press have accurately represented your position.

This is to let you know I am surprised and dismayed that you would, in effect, support the censorship of a poet because one of his poems is offensive to some segment of the society. This is a classic problem presented by the much

His written work is voluminous and spans several decades, and it was certainly well known to those who recommended him for the appointment as Poet Laureate. Why try and censor him now?

— Dr. M. William Howard, Jr.

valued freedom of expression that we Americans hold dear. And those of us who cherish this freedom know well that when we bend to the preferences of one group's views on a

work of art, this is a slippery slope that endangers all art.

Amiri Baraka is an artist. The poem that is at the center of this controversy is typical of the thought provoking and often controversial work he had created during virtually all his adult life. His written work is voluminous and spans several decades, and it was certainly well known to those who recommended him for the appointment as Poet Laureate. Why try and censor him now?

I urge you to reconsider your stance on this issue. It is inconsistent with bedrock values of our democracy.

Respectfully,
M. William Howard, Jr.

The Rev. Dr. M. William Howard, Jr. is the Pastor of Bethany Baptist Church, Newark, NJ.

Briefs

NJ COMMERCE REACHES OUT TO BULGARIA

NEWARK — Secretary of Commerce William D. Watley discussed bilateral trade and investments recently with Deputy Prime Minister Nikolay Vassilev of Bulgaria. Bulgaria, is vigorously pursuing a bilateral trade relationship with New Jersey and Watley, who heads the State's Commerce and Growth Commission, is seeking to diversify trade and investment interests around the globe. New Jersey's exports to Bulgaria last year were \$5.8 million.

DEMS SAY GOP CUTTED NJ ROADS REPAIR FUND

WASHINGTON — House Republicans voted to slash \$96,461,000 from New Jersey's highway repair and construction budget as part of the Transportation Appropriations Bill, FY 2003. The cuts jeopardize future road repairs and upgrades already underway. The American Road and Transportation Builders Association estimates the cuts will mean a net loss of 3,674 jobs, according to Rep. David Obey, a ranking Democratic member of the Appropriations Committee.

HUD SEEKS TO END FHA HOME LOSSES

WASHINGTON — Families with FHA-insured mortgages will receive immediate assistance to keep their homes, thanks to a new HUD initiative. The Special Forbearance Initiative will permit lenders of FHA-insured mortgages to assist creditworthy borrowers who are behind in making mortgage payments because of temporary unemployment. For information visit the HUD website at: www.hud.gov/news/index.

SBA LOWERS 7(A) LOAN MAXIMUM

WASHINGTON — The U.S. Small Business Administration imposed a \$500,000 limit on most guaranteed loans — leaving the vast majority of its small business credit customers unaffected, according to SBA Administrator Hector V. Barreto. The alternatives are frequent program shutdowns within days of the passage of each continuing resolution until our 2003 budget is passed." Limited caps were placed on 7(a) loans in 1995 and in 1997.

Study says minorities are more "entrepreneurial"

120-scholar report identifies predictors of entrepreneurship

WASHINGTON — Some 10 million American adults are involved in the process of starting nearly six million potential new businesses at any one time with African Americans 50 percent more likely to start a business than whites, according to a new report that answers who is involved in start-up ventures in the United States.

For white and African American men and women, the tendency to initiate start-up efforts is greatest among those living in more urban contexts

— The Panel Study of Entrepreneurial Dynamics

The Panel Study of Entrepreneurial Dynamics (PSED) finds that African American men with graduate experience between the ages of 25-35 are the most actively engaged population starting new businesses in the U.S. today. Hispanic men are 20 percent more likely than white men to be involved with start-up ventures.

Funded with grants from the Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation, the National Science Foundation and 33 member institutions, findings of the study were announced at the September 25 opening of the U.S. Minority Business Development Agency's national Minority Enterprise Development (MED) Week conference in Washington, D.C.

The PSED is a national sample of 64,622 U.S. households, which identified a panel of 830 nascent entrepreneurs and followed their efforts to pursue business starts-up over a two-year period.

The ongoing study tracks emerging entrepreneurs as they progress through the entrepreneurial process and reveals that attempts at new business formation are more widespread than previously disclosed and involve all racial and ethnic groups.

"The creation of a new firm is more widespread in the U.S. than getting married or the birth of a baby," said Larry Cox, Director of Programmatic Research at the Kauffman Foundation. "The next successful entrepreneur is as likely to be the person next door as the scientist tinkering in his or her lab."

Among the key findings:

* Approximately 10.1 million adults in the U.S. are

attempting to create a new business at any given time. With nearly one half of all new ventures started by teams of people, this represents about 5.6 million potential new businesses.

* Men are twice as likely to be in the process of starting new businesses as women; young men ages 25-34 are the most active.

* African American women have a higher propensity for entrepreneurship than white or Hispanic women, who

Senate passes surplus Kessler land sale bill

TRENTON — A bill sponsored by Democratic Senate President Richard J. Codey which would allow the state to sell off surplus real property in West Orange to the Kessler Institute was recently approved by the Senate by a vote of 354.

"In light of our current fiscal situation, any revenue source is welcome, but in this case the land was vacant anyway, so the deal is that much sweeter."

— Senator Richard J. Codey

would sell at its assessed value of \$667,200 and as a condition of the sale, and the Department of Military Affairs would be permitted to use the Kessler Institute's parking lots during military drills as long as an armory operates on the

Department's adjacent property.

A portion of the funds would go to the federal government to pay back their funding of a small arms range on the property, and the rest would go directly into the General Fund," said Senator Codey.

"No one has expressed interest in the land or any kind of conflict. The state makes a few bucks, and everyone's happy."

The bill now goes before an Assembly Committee before being voted on by the full Assembly.

Kessler wants to purchase the property to expand its research operations. The land

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Medicaid insures all children living below poverty line

Washington, D.C. - For the first time since Medicaid legislation was enacted in 1965, all children through age 18, living in families with incomes below the poverty level, will be eligible for health care coverage under Medicaid. This landmark was reached Monday,

September 30, 2002, when the final phase of the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1990 (OBRA) was completed to include coverage for 18 year-olds.

The legislation started out covering only pregnant women, infants to age one, and children to age six. Children, 7 years to 18 years, were phased in year by year until now all children through age 18, living in families with incomes below \$18,100 for a family of four, for example, will be eligible. Most recent data show that there are more than 20 million children covered by Medicaid. This legislation has contributed to providing coverage for the nearly 10 million of them living below the poverty level.

The 1990 act was also the spring-

board for passage in 1997 of the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP), which covers children in families with incomes too high for Medicaid eligibility but who cannot afford to pay for health insurance. In 2001, the CHIP program provided coverage for 4.6 million children.

Despite these two significant pieces of legislation, however, 5.8 million uninsured children living in families with incomes below 200 percent of the poverty level are eligible for but not enrolled in either Medicaid or CHIP.

"While we applaud the members of Congress for their work and efforts to insure uninsured children, we cannot stop there," said Children's Defense Fund President Marian Wright Edelman. "Families agonize over not being able to afford routine and preventive care and their children suffer the consequences. This nation must re-double its efforts to get every eligible uninsured child enrolled in and receiving the health care they need."

Edelman said unless Congress moves quickly, nearly \$3 billion of CHIP funds will revert to the federal treasury in fiscal years 2002 and 2003 and will no longer be available to states for children's health coverage. Failure to preserve

these funds could lead to nearly one million children losing CHIP coverage by 2006, and would jeopardize the momentum created by the 1990 Medicaid and 1997 CHIP legislation to provide health coverage to all eligible, low-income children.

The importance of seizing every opportunity to cover every low-income eligible child is highlighted by data released Tuesday by the U.S. Census Bureau showing that the number of children living below the poverty line has risen for the first time in eight years. In addition, the number of poor children living in extreme poverty increased from 41 percent in 2000 to 44 percent in 2001.

The mission of the Children's Defense Fund is to leave no child behind and to ensure every child a healthy start, a head start, a fair start, a safe start, and a moral start in life and successful passage to adulthood with the help of caring families and communities.

CDF provides a strong, effective voice for all the children of America who cannot vote, lobby, or speak for themselves. We pay particular attention to the needs of poor and minority children and those with disabilities. CDF educates the nation about the needs of children and encourages preventive investment before they get sick, into trouble, drop out of school, or suffer family breakdown. CDF began in 1973 and is a private, nonprofit organization supported by foundation and corporate grants and individual donations.

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New Jersey Governor James E. McGreevey,
Dina Matos McGreevey and their daughter, Jacqueline.



Health Briefs

Seven New Jerseyans test positive for West Nile Virus

The New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services recently announced that two additional New Jersey residents have been infected with West Nile virus, bringing the total number of cases this season to seven. A 65-year old Moorestown (Burlington County) woman and a 79-year-old Wildwood Crest (Cape May County) woman have tested positive for the virus. Both women were hospitalized earlier this month and have been released and are recovering at home. New Jersey Health and Senior Services Commissioner Clifton R. Lacy, M.D., reminds all residents to continue taking appropriate precautions to reduce risk of mosquito bites. Although the season has officially changed to fall, the state still remains at risk for West Nile Virus from mosquito bites until the weather changes and frost appears. Dr. Lacy encourages residents to keep window screens in good repair and eliminate standing water where mosquitoes can breed.

Teens receive meningitis info

Newark — With adolescents back in school, Horizon Blue Cross Blue Shield of New Jersey (Horizon BCBSNJ) is distributing a meningitis vaccine educational mailing to parents of teens between the ages of 15 to 18.

"It is important for our members, particularly adolescents, to be informed about meningitis and meningitis prevention," said Dr. Minal Patel, executive medical director, quality management and clinical innovations for Horizon BCBSNJ. A high fever, headache, and stiff neck are common symptoms of the virus and a physician should be contacted if one or more occur.

New gynecology services offered at Irvington General

Irvington — New gynecology services are now offered at Irvington General Hospital's Family Health Center. The center provides primary and preventive care, family planning, pregnancy diagnosis, medical and surgical treatment of women's disorders, diagnostic imaging, and management of menopause. "More than 4.5 million women in America, ages 18-50, report at least one chronic gynecological condition each year, states The National Women's Health Information Center."

African Americans in NJ await Senate candidates' notice

By M. Schery Gant

As a Supreme Court Justice deliberated on whether or not to wade into the deep-water fray over letting New Jersey Democrats place the name of former Sen. Frank R. Lautenberg (D-NJ) on the November ballot, several prominent African Americans are applauding the choice and anticipating a spirited, albeit brief battle.

With the tumultuous election less than 30 days from now, and the importance of the African American, Hispanic, and to some extent Asian vote, however, other observers say neither candidate is giving sufficient attention to this much needed group of voters.

While state Republicans and Democrats await word from Justice David Souter, who has jurisdiction over the Third Circuit, in which New Jersey is located, U.S. Republican Senate candidate Douglas Forrester, the Republican U.S. Senate candidate made at least two appearances in Newark last week. He attended the regular community worship service at St. James A.M.E. Church on Wednesday afternoon, where he was acknowledged by The Rev. Dr. William D. Watley, but did not address the congregation. Dr. Watley is also the Secretary and CEO of the Commission on Commerce and Growth for the State of New Jersey.

Forrester has adapted an interim strategy of attempting to link Lautenberg's past voting record to that of Senator Robert G. Torricelli (D-NJ). Torricelli quit the Senate race last week amid accusations of unethical, financial practices, and thereby eliminating Forrester's campaign platform, which many had described as being little more than "I'm not Torricelli."

Speaking at a fundraiser Friday at the Newark Marriott, Forrester made several references to "the Torricelli-Lautenberg machine," and Torricelli's record on national security.

"It's important for everyone

"The only think that the Republican candidate (Forrester) had going for him was Torricelli."

— David Bositis

to understand that, if it's possible, Mr. Lautenberg's record is even worse than Mr. Torricelli's on these things," Forrester said.

"Mr. Lautenberg now has a new first name — Torricelli," Forrester is reported to have said while campaigning in the Princeton area earlier in the week. Lautenberg's name was placed on the ballot by the Democrats last Thursday.

Many observers say Forrester's stature as a candidate will diminish greatly if he has to run against Lautenberg, who served honorably in the U.S. Senate for 18 years, and elected to leave office two years ago.

"The only think that the Republican candidate (Forrester) had going for him was Torricelli," opined David Bositis, senior political analyst at the Joint Center for Political and Economic science, an African American think tank, based in Washington, D.C. "He is much too conservative for New Jersey, which over the past 15 years has been become more liberal."

Rev. Reginald Jackson, executive director of the Black Ministerial Alliance, welcomed Lautenberg's candidacy.

"I think the former Senator will be a very strong, credible candidate, and the citizens of New Jersey will be able to make an informed choice." Jackson went on to say that Lautenberg will "Galvanize the urban voters, who happen primarily to be minorities and is the base of Democratic voters." The Black Ministers Alliance presented their Public Service Award to Lautenberg in 2000.

Especially pleased about the choice of Lautenberg as the Senatorial candidate is Jersey City Mayor Glenn

Cunningham. Lautenberg was the standard bearer in the selection of Cunningham's as the U.S. Marshall for the district of New Jersey. Cunningham became the first African American to hold that position from when former President William Jefferson Clinton appointed him in 1998.

"That would not have happened were it not for Senator Lautenberg," Cunningham said on a personal note. He gave Lautenberg broad accolades for his record while in the Senate for 18.5 years, and the impact he had on Hudson County.

"He spearheaded funding so that we can "eliminate our dangerous and hazardous brownfields, and redevelop urban centers. The Hope IV program advanced because of Senator Lautenberg," Cunningham said who included the funding for the Hudson-Bergen Light Rail project among the advances made possible under Lautenberg's leadership in Congress.

Cunningham said he looks forward to Lautenberg returning to the Senate, especially since he may be able to retain his seniority.

"Senator Lautenberg represents a better outcome for the county. As the mayor of the an urban center my concern is for homes for the homeless, jobs for the unemployed, education and jobs for our youth and that the poverty level continues to drop."

"Frank Lautenberg has had a lifetime experience of understanding the problems and concerns of all Americans" Cunningham said.

It is generally agreed that while Senator Lautenberg used his seniority and his membership on the Budget and Appropriations Committees to bring federal dollars to New Jersey. In fact, New Jersey ranks in the top ten states in the nation in Medicare spending, Empowerment Zone funding, Health and Human Services spending, transportation dollars, HOPE VI housing construction and low-rent housing assistance. New Jersey ranks

"Neither candidate has included an African American at the senior level of their campaign."

— Rick Thigpen

11th in education dollars spent annually.

Other observers are waiting with less certainty, however to see if and how The Forrester and Lautenberg the campaigns will address the largely urban minority community in the 29 days from not until the election on November 5.

Rick Thigpen, a partner in The Strategy Croup, a strategic communications organization specializing in government, and public relations

"To some degree Senator Lautenberg has spoken like he intends to be a friend of our community," Thigpen says, "And he has a pretty good record. For some strange reason the Torricelli team de-emphasized investing time and money in urban campaigning. They were into television. I believe Frank Lautenberg will be a little different."

One major telling point, however, is "Neither candidate has included an African American at the senior level of their campaign," Thigpen said emphasizing that the top level advisors decide on strategy and how campaign resources are allocated. Thigpen said while it is true the Lautenberg team has been on the campaign trail just over a week, "I don't see any reason why this was not done at the very beginning."

"For Lautenberg to get elected my guess is that 25 percent of the votes have to come from the minority community — African American, Latino, and Asian American," Thigpen explained, "So our behavior — whether or not we vote in sufficient numbers — will be a central part of the final decision."

Bositis voiced a similar opinion. "African Americans in New Jersey are extremely Democratic, and New Jersey's

newest Senator, Jon Corzine, would not have won without black support in getting the nomination and winning the race," he said.

Thigpen said he does believe, however, that the Lautenberg campaign will reach out to the African American and minority communities in the days and weeks to come. "They do demonstrate an eagerness to work cooperatively with our community," he stated.

Conversely, Thigpen said it was clear that the Forrester campaign "has made no meaningful overtures to our communities, nor are they in a meaningful consultation with African American about that the priorities are." He added that he did not consider visiting African American churches a "meaningful" outreach to address the issues, although "In the past, they (politicians) have gotten away with that. They usually get away with murder with us."

"Never the less the election itself has a lot at state for our community because this election includes a decision about who will control the U.S. Senate", Thigpen said.

The difference in the election outcome in the context of the Bush administration will be significant because "the opportunity for federal judges to be appointed who reflect our views on the constitution as law will be lost with the Republicans," Thigpen said.

"Some commitment to equal opportunity will also be lost with a republican majority," according to Thigpen.

"It's very questionable about the Republican's investment of resources in urban economic opportunity and urban education. These items will be further down on the agenda" with a Republican controlled Congress, than with one controlled by the Democrats, Thigpen said.

Both Lautenberg and Forrester spent the weekend zig-zagging across the state meeting voters in mostly non urban communities.

Rice, Green receive housing honors from Governor McGreevey

TRENTON — State Senator Ronald Rice and Assemblyman Gerald Green were honored at the Governor Tames E. McGreevey Conference on Housing and Community Development recently for their contributions to building a strong future for New Jersey's neighborhoods.

Senator Rice and Assemblyman Green received the Governor's Excellence Award in recognition of their advocacy efforts and success in establishing policies that improve the quality of life for the State's families and communities.

Department of Community Affairs Commissioner Susan Bass Levin presented the awards to Senator Rice and Assemblyman Green at the reception in their honor.

Senator Rice and Assemblyman Green are com-

mitted to making a real difference for New Jersey residents. With their guidance, the State has established policies that expand housing opportunities, preserve urban open spaces and eliminate the dangers of abandoned sites within our neighborhoods," said Commissioner Levin. "New Jersey is proud of their dedication and service to the citizens of our State. It is my honor to celebrate their accomplishments."

Senator Rice, 28th District, is the CoChair of the Senate Community and Urban Affairs Committee. His list of accomplishments includes the creation of bills that helped demolish abandoned buildings, provided financial assistance to urban and rural communities and assessed penalties to owners of abandoned buildings for violations.

In an effort to include input from residents on

affordable housing issues, Senator Rice sponsored a law that added one public member to the New Jersey Housing and Mortgage Finance Agency.

Assemblyman Green is serving his sixth term in the 22nd Legislative District. He is Chairman of the Assembly Housing and Local Government Committee.

During his ten years of service, Assemblyman Green created bills that increased the supply of affordable rental housing and supported issues of sprawl and open space preservation in New Jersey's urban areas. In 2002, the Senate released has bill that would prevent landlords from inflating rents for displaced, natural disaster victims.

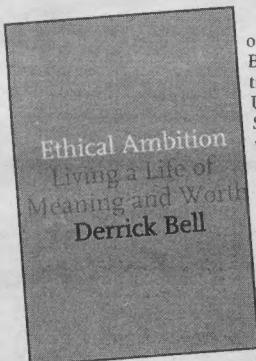
More than 1,500 housing and community development professionals attended the two-day conference in Atlantic City.

Ethical Ambition: Living a Life of Meaning and Worth

Review by Kam Williams

"I have found that even in our highly competitive society where the goal of making it to the top is more important than how we get there, an individual whose ambition is to live an ethical life can gain both an inner dignity and an overall serenity that money and position can't buy. And in strange and usually unpredictable ways, the ethically ambitious person, on occasion, can achieve impressive success as the society usually defines that term."

—Excerpt from Introduction—



minority women. Mr. Bell, himself, had integrated the department by becoming the law school's first African-American pro-

Back in April of 1990, Derrick Bell put his position at Harvard University Law School on the line when he issued an ultimatum to the administration: either hire a non-white female professor or I quit. At the time, none of its 61 tenured teachers were

Ethical Ambition
Living a Life of
Meaning and Worth
Written by Derrick Bell
Published by
Bloomsbury USA

principles. And when Harvard refused, he surrendered his cushy position at the prestigious college and left.

Does Derrick Bell regret committing an act which most would regard to be tantamount to professional suicide? Not at all, because his measure of success has more to do with integrity than with status, and more with ethics than with dollars. He discusses his philosophy in detail in *Ethical Ambition: Living a Life of Meaning and Worth*, an eloquent capstone on a career evenly divided as a legal scholar and as a civil rights activist.

The author admits that this work was originally conceived as an autobiography, and it still reads very much like a memoir. Though constructed to highlight seven ethical areas: risk, passion, inspiration, courage, faith, relationships and humility, the book is, in essence, a series of anecdotes about the black battle for equality, recounted in the context of moral equations.

For instance, Bell speaks fondly of watching his mother; when he was only five, stand up to

unfair treatment by the family's landlord in Pittsburgh. This helps us understand where he came to find the gumption in 1959 to try to integrate a bar in his hometown all alone. Though the bartender never served him a drink that night, as director of the local NAACP, he would soon spearhead the movement to end such de facto segregation in the Steel City.

So, Derrick's road to the Ivy League was one well paved with a political activism, which was probably considered unbecoming at Harvard's hallowed halls. To some, his well-publicized decision to leave Harvard looked like the impulsive act of a man who'd temporarily taken leave of his senses. But as Bell explains, it was par for his personal course:

"Leaving jobs and engaging in other activities to protest what I felt was wrong did not destroy my career. To the contrary, those actions, while not always easy to take, enriched my life and provided me with the perhaps unrealistic but no less satisfying sense that I was doing God's work."

Ethical Ambition, then, is a book best approached not as a preachy philosophical treatise by an effete intellectual, but as a humble testament to a life lived in accordance with a spiritually-based mandate. It is in that context, that Derrick Bell has scribed this collection of reflections and preserved a legacy deserving of an enduring appreciation.

Study finds youth favor surfing Internet over television, telephone

By Debra Pryor

With more than 200 television channels for kids to choose from and a wide variety of programming targeted specifically at them, parents may be surprised to know a recent study by Knowledge Networks/Statistical Research found that one third of children in the United States prefer logging on to the Internet over turning on the television or chatting on the phone.

Educators are already well aware of the trend. Recognizing the increased popularity of the Internet among children, and how use of the Web has created a generation of visual learners, educators across the country are incorporating online learning into their lesson plans, combining entertainment with education. Currently almost every public school in the country and more than twothirds of all public school classrooms have access to the Internet.

"Today's children have been raised using computers, and they feel at ease with the Internet," said Dr. Dale Baker, coditor of the Journal of Research in Science Teaching. "From 1994 to 2000, public schools experienced a 63 percent increase in access to the Internet. Educators are now learning how to apply that technology, which will further engage their students in the learning process."

According to the Department of Education, more than 78 percent of children use the Internet in the classroom, with the majority going online to conduct research for school or to complete Webbased educational courses. Along with wider access to the Web, content of specific sites is a significant factor in the increased usage. A number of sites offer educational information in a fun and interactive environment, encouraging children to visit on their own as well as in the classroom.

"Online learning has opened new doors in education by providing teachers with the option to take students on virtual tours throughout the world and with access to the latest educational

materials," said Brian Firen, an integrated science teacher at Willis Junior High School in Chandler, Ariz. "My students are extremely receptive to online learning simply because it is more appealing and entertaining than traditional classroom formats."

This fall, teachers will have access to online "edutainment" materials developed by Universal Studios and Amblin Entertainment featuring one of the most popular movie franchises of all time, *Jurassic Park*. Created in accordance with National Science Education Standards and with the *Jurassic Park* Institute (www.jpinstiute.com) is just one example of a safe, educational Web site for kids.

Assistance of world renowned paleontologists, *Jurassic Park* Institute (www.jpinstiute.com) is home to a variety of free lesson plans, student activities, interactive games, and the latest dinosaur research and information.

"We created *Jurassic Park* Institute to take scientific learning to a new level, both in the classroom and at home, through a medium that today's kids not only understand but enjoy," said Erik Thompson, director, *Jurassic Park* Institute. "Our ultimate goal is to inspire a lifelong interest in science among kids by creating a more hands-on learning environment."

As Internet usage increases in classrooms and at home, the challenge for educators and parents will be to capture the interest of children while providing a solid education base. Sites like www.jpinstiute.com, with widespread built-in recognition, provide just such a platform and will serve as models for additional online education sites and programs in the future.

Debra Pryor is president & CEO of Partners in Brainstorms, an organization dedicated to creating innovative and educational programs sponsored by some of America's leading corporations. Pryor has more than 20 years of experience in youth education.

Book review

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Swing-N-Newark – Home At Last!

By Celeste Young

Last month, with little to no fanfare, Swing-N-Newark quietly joined Newark's Downtown District Community. This swing dance venue, hosted by Earl (The Earl of Swing) Hicks, is held every Friday at Hamilton's Pub, 27 Central Avenue. It starts at 6:00 p.m. and runs to 12:00 midnight, with two dance lessons included in the cost of admission.

But why swing dancing? And why in Newark? Because, says Mr. Hicks, swing belongs here. This dance genre, one of the only authentic American dance genres, was born, nurtured and developed in the

cities of this country. Of all the partner dances enjoying popularity today, swing is the one that most offers freedom of personal expression and interpretation. It's form; rhythm and moods are a reflection of the lives, struggles and triumphs, and unbearable grace of urban dwellers throughout this nation. And Newark is among the top of the list.

And why in Newark? Because the city and the dance belong to each other. Newark is one of the cities that breathed life into swing. And swing grew up in Newark.

Kam's Kapsules: For movies opening October 11, 2002

BIG BUDGET FILMS

Below (R for language and violence) WWII sci-fi adventure about a US submarine trapped in unfriendly waters with Nazis above and ghosts below.

Brown Sugar (PG-13 for expletives and sexual situations) **Love & Basketcases**. Sweet romantic comedy, set in the Big Apple, about love bubbling between workaholic buddies, executive Taye Diggs and editor Sanaa Lathan.

Knockaround Guys (R for violence, cursing and drugs) Mafia saga in which Brooklyn mobsters send their sons on a mission to Montana to retrieve cash from a crooked sheriff. With Vin Diesel, Dennis Hopper and John Malkovich.

Pokemon 4Ever (G) More animated adventures for the next generation of tiny tykes fascinated by Japanese pocket monsters.

The Rules of Attraction (R for profanity, drug use, violent images and heavy sex content) Steamy erotic drama, based on the popular Bret Easton Ellis book about a sticky love triangle on a college campus involving a coed, her bi boyfriend and a drug dealer.

Swept Away (R for nudity, sex and profanity) Remake of Lina Wertmuller 1975 S&M, class war classic with Madonna as the spoiled socialite stranded on a deserted island with a sadistic deck-hand from her yacht.

The Transporter (PG-13 for intense violence and some sensuality) Martial arts adventure about a "no questions asked" courier (Jason Statham) who ends up in too deep after his curiosity about a suspicious delivery gets the better of him.

Tuck Everlasting (PG for violence) Adaptation of the morose children's novel about a 15 year-old girl who discovers the fountain of youth in her next-door-neighbor's yard.

White Oleander (PG-13 for many mature themes) Michelle Pfeiffer stars in adaptation of Oprah Book Club tearjerker by Janet Finch about a con in prison for a crime of passion who loses custody of her daughter to a series foster moms.

INDEPENDENT & FOREIGN FILMS

Bowling for Columbine (R for violent images and profanity) Michael Moore comes to the defense of the 2nd Amendment with tongue-in-cheek documentary, which blames bowling for the Columbine slaughter. Guns don't kill people, 10-7 splits do.

Comedian (R for foul language) Jerry Seinfeld concert/biopic combines his observational routines on fatherhood with a behind-the-scenes look at his life after TV.

On Guard! (Unrated) Delayed US release of foreign flick movie made in 1997. Adaptation of La Bossu, novel set in 18th century about a Duke and a Count willing to kill over custody of the out-of-wedlock heir to the thrown born to a commoner. (In French and Italian with subtitles)

2002-2003 SEASON

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PLANET HIP HOP
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SACRED CIRCLE CAFÉ
Speaking in Tongues
Friday, November 1 at 8:00
The Chase Room • \$16

VERSE 4 VERSE OPEN MIC
Hosted by Ras Baraka and
Juba Dowdell
Friday, November 1 at 11:00pm
Robert Treat Hotel

CYPHER CIRCLE:
A DISCUSSION IN THE ROUND
A Conversation with
Hip Hop Elders
Saturday, November 2
at 12:00 Noon
The Chase Room • FREE

BOOK SIGNING
WHO SHOT YA?
Ernie Paniccioli and Kevin Powell
Saturday, November 2 at 3:00
Parsonet Room

KEYNOTE SPEECH: CHUCK D
Rap, Race, Reality
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The Chase Room • FREE

RENNIE HARRIS PRESENTS
THE HIP HOP LEGENDS
Saturday, November 2 at 7:30
Victoria Theater • \$31
post-performance discussion

PLANET HIP HOP AFTER PARTY
Saturday, November 2 at 11:00pm
Chase Room • \$11

CYPHER CIRCLE:
A DISCUSSION IN THE ROUND
Power and Politics
Sunday, November 3 at 12:00 Noon
The Chase Room • FREE

FILM SCREENING
HIP HOP: THE NEW WORLD ORDER
Sunday, November 3 at 4:00
Victoria Theater • \$6

PLANET HIP HOP CONCERT FINALE
Featuring Rah Digga, Doug E.
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Sunday, November 3 at 7:00
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URBAN BUSH WOMEN
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COMPANY OF MOZAMBIQUE
Friday, November 22 at 7:30;
Saturday, November 23 at 7:30;
Sunday, November 24 at 5:00
Victoria Theater • \$43

HOME
Friday, November 29 at 7:30;
Saturday, November 30 at
2:30 & 7:30;
Sunday, December 1 at 2:30
Victoria Theater • \$36



SALIF KEITA

Saturday, October 12 at 7:30

Known worldwide as "the Golden Voice of Africa," Keita's music blends together the griot tradition of his Malian childhood with other West African styles from Guinea, the Ivory Coast and Senegal, along with Cuban, Spanish and Portuguese influences.

Victory Theater • \$31

NJPAC'S 5TH ANNIVERSARY

DANCE PARTY

featuring DJ FELIX HERNANDEZ
Saturday, October 19 at 8:00

Dance on the stage of Prudential Hall, mingle in the specially decorated Prudential Hall lobby, or enjoy the stylish setting of a piano bar in the elegant Chase Room as NJPAC and DJ Felix Hernandez host an unforgettable nightclub-style party to celebrate five years of the New Jersey Performing Arts Center! Hernandez spins classic R&B sounds of the '50s, '60s and '70s, as well as Motown, funk, salsa, reggae, slow jams, and the world's largest electric slide. Cash bar and refreshments will be available.

Prudential Hall • \$26

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Sunday, October 20 at 5:00

Three-time Grammy® Award-winner Paquito D'Rivera debuts the new World Festival Orchestra. "(D'Rivera) is one of the woodwind giants of our time," says Jazz Times. He welcomes special guests Lenny Andrade, an acclaimed vocalist who specializes in bossa nova and dazzling violinist Regina Carter. Prudential Hall • \$46-\$16

APOLLO THEATER AMATEUR NIGHT

Saturday, October 26 at 8:00

For decades, Harlem's world-famous Apollo Theater has been the soul of Harlem's entertainment tradition, and its high-energy Amateur Nights have acted as a launching pad for legendary artists like Ella Fitzgerald, The Jackson Five, Prince, and Lauryn Hill. The performance will welcome a number of Apollo Theater regulars: house band Ray Chew and The Crew with Joe Gray, "Executioner" C.P. Lacey, and guest host Mo'Nique. And you decide who goes to the finale in New York!

Prudential Hall • \$39-\$11

TERENCE BLANCHARD

Friday, November 1 at 7:30

For twenty years, Grammy® Award-nominated trumpeter, composer and bandleader Terence Blanchard has been one of the hottest players on the jazz scene. An accomplished film composer who has written some of the most memorable scores of recent years (including Spike Lee's *Malcolm X* and *Jungle Fever*), Blanchard was chosen "Artist of the Year" in the *Down Beat* 2000 poll.

Victoria Theater • \$36

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LEGAL NOTICE

PUBLIC HOUSING AUTHORITY LEGAL SERVICES

The Housing Authority of the County of Morris is seeking proposals from attorney/law firms to serve as legal counsel to the Authority. Proposals should be written to address the following quality/merit factors which shall be used by the Authority to evaluate proposals.

1. Experience as Housing Authority Counsel.
2. Knowledge of Housing Authority and HUD regulations and procedures.
3. Experience with State Public Agencies Law, in particular, Local Public Contracts Laws.
4. Experience with New Jersey and HUD Construction and Bidding Law.
5. Experience in New Jersey and HUD Tenant/Landlord requirements.

Public Housing Management - 247

Section 8 Housing Choice Vouchers - 634

US Rural Development 515/Section 8 - 101

US Rural Development Congregate Housing - 19

Period of Services is January 1, 2003 to December 31, 2003.

Proposals must be submitted to the address below and must be received no later than 4:30 PM on Friday, November 1, 2002.

Roberta L. Strater, Executive Director
 Housing Authority of the County of Morris
 99 Ketch Rd.
 Morristown, New Jersey 07960

\$18.37

HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE COUNTY OF MORRIS

99 Ketch Road
 Morristown, NJ 07960
 (973) 540-0389

NOTICE FOR FEE ACCOUNTING SERVICES REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

The Housing Authority of the County of Morris is inviting submittals from professional accounting firms for fee accounting services for Low-Income Public Housing Program, (FmHA), Rural Development 515/Section 8, (FmHA) Rural Development, Section 8 Housing Choice Vouchers Program, Public Housing Development, State of New Jersey Congregate Services, and Modernization Programs for the period beginning January 1, 2003 and ending December 31, 2003.

Please contact the Housing Authority of the County of Morris, 99 Ketch Rd., Morristown, NJ 07960, (973) 540-0389 for qualification criteria. Proposals must be submitted no later than 4:30 PM on Friday, November 1, 2002.

Roberta L. Strater, Executive Director

\$12.25

LEGAL NOTICE

PUBLIC HOUSING AUTHORITY AUDITING FIRM

The Housing Authority of the County of Morris is seeking proposals from Financial Accounting firms to Audit the financial records of the Housing Authority for fiscal year ending 12/31/02. Proposals should be written to address the following quality/merit factors which shall be used by the Authority to evaluate proposals:

1. Experience of Auditing firm.
2. Knowledge of and experience with HUD public housing regulations and procedures.
3. Knowledge and experience with Rural Development financial requirements.
4. Experience with Financial Audits of Housing Authorities.

Public Housing Management - 247

Public Housing Development - 57

Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher - 634

US Rural Development 515/Section 8 - 101

US Rural Development Congregate Housing - 19

Proposals must be submitted to the address below and must be received no later than 4:30 PM on Friday, November 1, 2002.

Roberta L. Strater, Executive Director
 Housing Authority of the County of Morris
 99 Ketch Road
 Morristown, NJ 07960

\$17.15

SIDEWALK AND PATIO MASONRY REPAIRS:

The Asbury Park Public Housing Authority invites qualified licensed contractor to submit their proposals for concrete sidewalk and patio repairs at various Housing Authority sites. Interested contractors should call Geoffrey Melvin, Maintenance Supervisor at 372/774-2660 ext. 19 for an appointment to inspect the sites and get details of the scope, and specifications of required repairs. Responses will be accepted through October 18th 2002 at the Asbury Park Public Housing Authority, 1000 ½ Third Avenue, Asbury Park, NJ 07712.

Harold A. Phipps, M.B.A.
 Executive Director

NEW ROOFING FOR 6 TEN UNIT APARTMENT BUILDINGS:

The Asbury Park Public Housing Authority invites qualified licensed contractor to submit their proposals for new shingle roofing at Lincoln Village located on Memorial Drive, Asbury Park. Interested contractors should call Geoffrey Melvin, Maintenance Supervisor at 372/774-2660 ext. 19 for an appointment to inspect the sites and get details of the scope, and specifications for required repairs. Responses will be accepted through October 18th 2002 at the Asbury Park Public Housing Authority, 1000 1/2 Third Avenue, Asbury Park, NJ 07712.

Harold A. Phipps, M.B.A.
 Executive Director

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS ARCHITECTURAL AND ENGINEERING SERVICES

The Housing Authority of the Township of Lakewood is seeking a multidisciplinary architectural and engineering firm (A/E) to provide professional services for the implementation of work items included in the Capital Fund Program (CFP) as follows:

1. Roof replacement at NJ54-1A - Lulu Duffy Cottages
2. Boiler upgrades and/or replacement at NJ54-1A, Lulu Duffy Cottages; NJ54-1B, JFK Apartments; NJ54-2, Peter Ward Tower, and NJ54-3 John J. Currey Building

Specifications can be obtained at the Administrative Offices of the Lakewood Housing Authority, 317 Simpson Avenue, Lakewood, NJ 08701 during regular business hours or can be mailed by calling Tania at 732-364-1300 ext. 115.

Two (2) copies of the proposal must be submitted no later than 3:00 PM on Thursday, November 7, 2002.

Proposers are strongly urged to attend a pre-proposal meeting scheduled for Wednesday, October 23, 2002 at 10:00 AM at the above address.

Proposers should be aware that because of budgetary constraints work items might be bid at different times. Lakewood Housing Authority encourages minority business participation.

Mary Jo Grauso
 Executive Director

\$15.92

ENGINEERING SERVICES:

The Asbury Park Public Housing Authority invites qualified licensed Engineering Firms to submit qualifications and proposals for consideration in providing the PHA with engineering services necessary in determining specifications for upgrading existing sprinkler standpipe and related services. Interested contractors should call Geoffrey Melvin, Maintenance Supervisor at 972/774-2660 ext. 19 for an appointment to inspect the site and get details of the scope, and specifications for required standpipe design. Responses will be accepted through October 18th 2002 at the Asbury Park Public Housing Authority, 1000 ½ Third Avenue, Asbury Park, NJ 07712.

Harold A. Phipps, M.B.A.
 Executive Director

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Calendar

Community

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 9

Newark — Essex County Board of Chosen Freeholders host its Annual Columbus Day Celebration at the Hall of Records, 465 Dr. MLK, Jr. Blvd at 4:30 p.m. in Room 506. For more info call 973-621-4486.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 11

East Orange — Community blood will be held at New Hope Baptist Church, 144 N or m a n St. from 4:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 12

Newark — People's Organization for Progress sponsors a reparations rally at 12:30 p.m. in Washington Park, across from the Newark Public Library.

Newark — People's Organization for Progress host a general membership meeting at Mt. Pleasant Baptist Missionary Church, 100 Montgomery, St. at 5:00 p.m.

Middletown — Monmouth County Park System's 2002 African-American History celebration features Rev. Calvin O. Butts, III at reception, 3:00 p.m. at the Tatum Park Activity Center, Red Hill Rd. For info call 732-460-1167.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 14

Newark — A community blood drive will be held at Seton Hall Law school from 10:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 15

Newark — Newark Public Schools and the Advisory Board hosts a chat with Daniel Cassidy of the U.S. Department of Education, at the Newark Public School Office, 2 Cedar St. at 6:00 p.m.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 17

Newark — Rutgers University hosts its 2002 Alumni & Faculty Awards dinner at 6:00 p.m. in the Robeson Crt. Call 973-353-5242.

Business

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 10

Newark — Greater Newark Business Development Consortium will host a workshop giving entrepreneurs information and techniques of how to develop a profitable business idea at the RBP Seminar Conference Crt. from 8:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. For more info call 973-242-5560.

Mountainside — The Gateway Regional Chamber of Commerce hosts its 6th Annual Business to Business Expo at L'Affaire, 1099 Route 22 East from 2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Admission is free. For info call 908-352-0900.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 12

Jersey City — Pushkin Management Group, LLC hosts a lecture on basic training for small business at the Greenville Branch Library, 1841 Kennedy Blvd., 2nd Fl. For info call 201-332-4618.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 14

Newark — Ron Harris, Founder & CEO of Harris Capital Partners and Metropolitan Baptist Church will sponsor a wealth-building seminar at The Metropolitan Baptist Church Finance Ministry. Sessions are free. For more info call 973-642-2267.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 15

Newark — SCORE presents a workshop on Starting and Managing Your Own Business at 2 Gateway Center, 15th Floor, from 9:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. The registration fee is \$25.00. For more info call 973-645-3982.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 16

Newark — Concord Communications presents a seminar titled "Manage Your Business by Managing Your Applications, at the Newark Airport Marriott. For info call 973-623-0006.

Newark — Sheila Gibbons, former USA Today & Gannett journalist will speak on women and the media at Rutgers University at 1:00 p.m. in the Robeson Campus Crt. Room 227. For more info call 973-353-5262.

Heartbeat

ONGOING

Irvington — Gynecology services are available from 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. every Tuesday and Thursday in the Family Health Center East Wing, ground level of Irvington General Hospital. For more info call 973-399-6381.

Irvington — Every Wednesday Irvington General Hospital will hold a Women's HIV/ AIDS Support Group at 10:00 a.m. For more info call 973-275-0210.

Newark — Newark Beth Israel Medical Center will hold a Breast Cancer Patient Support Group. For more info call 973-926-7609.

Newark — Newark Beth Israel Medical Center is offering a Look



THURSDAY, OCTOBER 10 — The African Theatre celebrates its 10-Year Anniversary at an Awards Gala chaired by former New Jersey Governor Thomas H. Kean and Leon Denmark of NJPAC, at The Newark Club, One Newark Center, 22nd Floor. Festivities begin at 6:00 p.m. Tickets are \$100. For Info and tickets call: 973-624-1584.

Good, Feel Good Program. For more info call 973-322-5000.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 16

Montclair — Spence-Chapin offers a seminar on African-American infant adoption at the Montclair Public Library from 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. For more info call 973-275-1212.

New Brunswick — Saint Peter's University Hospital offers a free prostate cancer screening for men age 50 and over from 4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. For more info call 732-745-8600 ext. 8903.

THURSDAYS, OCT. 10, 17, 31

Newark — The WIC Pediatric Van provides health services at the Ironbound Community Crt., 93 Fleming Ave. from 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Immunizations are given on Tuesdays and Thursdays only. For info call 973-424-4174.

Clifton — Clara Maass Auxiliary hosts a Fashion Show at the Valley Regency at 6:30 p.m. For more info call 973-50-2150.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 10, 17

New Brunswick — St. Peter's Hospital Health Center for Women offers a "STOP SMOKING" program, from 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. For info call 732-937-6003.

FRIDAYS, OCT. 11, 18, 25

Newark — The WIC Pediatric Van provides health services at La Casa De Don Pedro, 75 Park Ave., from 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. For more info call 973-424-4174.

TUESDAYS, OCT. 15, 22, 29

Newark — The WIC Pediatric Van provides health services at AJ Seabra Supermarket, 260 Lafayette from 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Immunizations are available, bring picture ID, proof of residency, child's immunization records, child's birth certificate and passport. For info call 973-424-4174.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 11

Theatre. This jazz/modern funk ballet takes audiences on a journey through America's dance history. For info call 973-877-3208.

New Brunswick — Paul Anka performs at the State Theatre at 8:00 p.m. For info call 732-246-7469.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 11, 18, 25

Newark — Renaissance Jazz Café, presents Jazzy' Friday with various performers, at 7:00 p.m. For info call 973-623-0002.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 17

Plainfield — The Community Education Center offers a course on calligraphy from 7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. For info call 908-753-7364. There is no charge.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 18

New Brunswick — Country music singer Kenny Rogers performs at the State Theatre at 8:00 p.m. For more info call 732-246-7469.

SAT, OCT. 19, SUN, OCT. 20

New York — WBLS presents Circle of Sisters Expo 2002 where African-American and Caribbean families gather for a day workshops and entertainment at the Jacob Javits Convention Center. For more info visit www.wblsi.com.

Religion

ONGOING ON THURSDAYS

Newark — The Network of Christian Men, Inc., in cooperation with the Newark Literacy Campaign, Inc., seeks male and female volunteers to tutor adults, from 6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. To become a tutor, or to receive tutoring contact Isaac Thomas, Jr., at 973-371-9741, or Stanley Crawford at 973-623-4001.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 13

East Orange — The Discipleship Team of East Orange, Inc. seeks walkers and sponsors for their Annual Crop Walk to fight AIDS in Africa. Participants gather at Christ Episcopal Church, 422 Main St., at 1:00 p.m. For info call 973-675-6187, code 111.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 9

Newark Women With a Vision Ministries, Inc., will hold a "Harvest is Ripe" prayer breakfast, at First Timothy Baptist Church, 215 Chancellor Ave. For info call 973-923-2964.

Send your calendar items, and photos to City News, 111 Mulberry St, TH-C, Newark, NJ 07102-4009, or email: editorial@citynewsnetwork.com.

Local Briefs

Ribbon cut for new Central Ward homes

NEWARK — The City of Newark recently marked "the long anticipated initiative to develop Newark's Central Ward" by cutting the ribbon for the construction of 14 new affordable two-family homes. The homes are located on Third Street at the corner of Dickerson Street. For information call 973-484-0400.

Four new deputy mayors take oath

NEWARK — The City of Newark swore in four new duty mayors recently. A City Hall ceremony was held for state Sen. Ronald L. Rice, a former Newark Councilman, Ras Baraka, an educator, Jeannette Ramos, a community activist, and Evelyn Williams, the former president of the Newark Board of Education.

Senate OKs public housing crime bill

TRENTON — A bill sponsored by state Sen. Ronald L. Rice that would require housing authorities to compile and issue reports on crime statistics was unanimously passed.

Historical Commission sponsors 2003 Mildred Barry Garvin African American teaching prize

TRENTON — The New Jersey Historical Commission is now accepting nominations for its 2003 Mildred Barry Garvin Prize. The Garvin Prize, an award of \$1,000, is given for outstanding efforts in making students aware of and interested in African American history.

The late Mildred Barry Garvin (1926 - 1993) was a member of the New Jersey General Assembly and the Historical Commission. Legislation she sponsored established the Historical Commission's Afro American

History Program in 1984.

In 2002, Bonnie Brennen, a social studies teacher at Meridian Academy, an alternative high school in Lakewood, received the Garvin Prize. In teaching American history, Ms. Brennen has been able to attract and sustain the interest of her students to inspire them highlighting the place of African Americans in this history in ways that range from a discussion of black heroes in the American Revolution, to the Underground Railroad, to the importance of oral tradition and

storytelling in black American life and culture.

Teachers, counselors, or school librarians, who have helped students learn about the African American past, and how it relates to New Jersey, are eligible. Such persons can be engaged in K12 education in a public, private, parochial, or charter school. Nominations must be postmarked by November 3. The awardee will be notified by January 17, 2003. The Commission will present the Garvin Prize at its Annual Black History Month

Conference in February at the Paul Robeson Campus Center, Rutgers University in Newark.

To obtain a nomination form for the Garvin Prize as well as information for the Annual Black History Month Conference, contact Giles R. Wright, Director, Afro-American History Program, New Jersey Historical Commission, P. O. Box 305, Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0305 by mail or by visiting the Commission's website at: www.state.nj.us/state/history.

Four Essex communities mull combining some services

IRVINGTON — The Irvington Fire Department recently released the results of a study to determine the feasibility an inter-local agreement would allow the East Orange, Irvington, Maplewood and Orange fire departments to centralize dispatch and other communication services through the latter municipality's dispatch facility.

It will be "quicker and more efficient" for all calls to go to East Orange," according to Don Huber, the IFD's chief and

director. The system could be operational in about 90 days after approval. This plan will provide "considerable enhancement of the level of services," Huber said.

If implemented, the move is expected to yield Irvington the same benefits as having four or five additional firefighters on staff. The department currently has mutual aid agreements with Essex's 20 other municipalities and outside the county. Fire officials said the shared services proposal could be adapted to

include other municipalities that may consider participating.

"As municipalities constantly seek ways to save money and increase efficiency, I am proud that the Township of Irvington has taken the lead in this endeavor," Mayor Wayne Smith said. In another cost-cutting measure, the Mayor is seeking to implement a joint purchasing system among the township, Irvington Board of Education and Irvington Housing Authority to procure universal goods and services.

At the advent of the week commemorating the one-year anniversary of September 11, the Mayor said it's appropriate to recognize the invaluable work of emergency services personnel and explore ways to increase services. He said every second makes a difference in saving lives and referred to concerns expressed by government officials that more efficient communication, especially among firefighters, may have saved lives during the September 11 disaster.

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